

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 07731 181403Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

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P R 181230Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4859

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS BEIRUT 7731

USIA FOR IOP/M, IPS, IBS, INA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, PFOR, XF, LE

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - SECRETARY'S INTERVIEW WITH U.S. NEWS AND
WORLD REPORT

1. LEADING INDEPENDENT "AN-NAHAR" IS ONLY BEIRUT PAPER
COMMENTING ON MIDEAST DIPLOMACY JUNE 18, FOLLOWING POST
PLACEMENT OF MIDEAST EXCERPTS OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S
INTERVIEW WITH U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT (NESA 116/13)
IN "AN-NAHAR", LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR", AND
ENGLISH-LANGUAGE "DAILY STAR".

2. COMMENTING ON INTERVIEW, "AN-NAHAR" FOREIGN EDITOR
"ABD AL-KARIM ABUN,NASR WRITES: "IT NOW APPEARS CLEAR
THAT EGYPT AND WEST IN GENERAL AND EGYPT AND AMERICA IN
PARTICULAR ARE TALKING SAME LANGUAGE, ONE THAT DID NOT
PREVIOUSLY EXIST, ON MIDEAST CRISIS.... SADAT KNOWS
LIMITS OF AMERICAN ROLE. THEREFORE, HE HAS NOT ASKED
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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 07731 181403Z

AMERICA TO ABANDON ITS SPECIAL RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL,

BUT HAS INSTEAD ASKED IT TO PURSUE EVEN-HANDED POLICY
AND TO FIND PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT TO DISPUTE THAT TAKES
EXISTENCE OF FORCES OTHER THAN ISRAEL IN AREA INTO ACCOUNT.
DR. KISSINGER IS USING SAME LANGUAGE. IN INTERVIEW WITH
AMERICAN MAGAZINE, HE SAYS: 'WE HAVE A HISTORIC COMMITMENT
TO SURVIVAL AND WELL-BEING OF ISRAEL. THIS IS BASIC
NATIONAL POLICY REAFFIRMED BY EVERY ADMINISTRATION. BUT
WE ARE IN NO WAY COMMITTED TO THE STATUS QUO. ISRAEL
ITSELF HAS SAID THAT IT DOES NOT INSIST ON EXISTING
TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENT FOR FINAL PEACE....' KISSINGER'S
STATEMENT CONFORMS TO SADAT'S CONCEPT OF AMERICAN ROLE....
BUT PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF SIMILARITY OR CONFIRMITY OF
VIEWPOINTS. IT IS INSTEAD ONE OF MOVING TO TAKE TANGIBLE,
SERIOUS STEPS TO SETTLE DISPUTE. QUESTION REMAINS:
WILL THIS AMERICAN-WESTERN CONVICTION DEVELOP INTO
INSTRUMENT OF PRESSURE ON ISRAEL OR WILL IT REMAIN
MERELY THEORETICAL CONVICTION, JUST LIKE ALL INTERNATIONAL
RESOLUTIONS AND STANDS THAT HAVE CALLED FOR COMPLETE
ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL AND SECURING RIGHTS OF PALESTINIAN
PEOPLE?"
GODLEY

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